

PART FOUR

Security and Rear Operations

Conserving the fighting potential of his force is one of the ASCC's most important responsibilities. Security conserves the fighting potential of the force so that that potential can be applied at the decisive time and place. Operational security includes protecting the force from enemy air, ground, and sea attack and countering the enemy's use of firepower by making soldiers and operational formations and facilities difficult to locate, strike, and destroy. In safeguarding operational forces, the ASCC conducts ECCM, integrates air defense coverage, implements NBC defensive measures, and conducts rear operations.

Chapter 12

Military Police Support

This chapter discusses the role of military police at the operational level. It covers the MP mission and functions and support to contingency operations. Military police at the operational level provide the senior Army commander with a flexible force to execute combat, combat support, and combat service support missions throughout the COMMZ.

MISSION

MP provide combat power for rear operations. MP conducting combat battlefield circulation control (BCC) operations expedite the forward movement of combat resources. They provide area security for units and activities located in the COMMZ, and they take charge of EPW. MP conducting law and order operations in support of the senior logistics headquarters provide commanders and soldiers with a more secure environment in which to conduct military operations.

In the COMMZ, a provost marshal (PM) and Army MP units assigned to the theater provide support to the ASCC. Most MP units are assigned to the senior CSS organization. If that organization is a TAACOM, an MP brigade is assigned to support forces operating within the TAACOM AOR. The MP unit commander is the PM for the senior CSS organization.

Most special-purpose MP companies operate only in a maturing theater, as they arrive with the advent of their supported operational-level unit. Those assigned to the

operational-level transportation headquarters provide security for port, waterway, and railway facilities in areas under US control. Those assigned to transportation terminal battalions prevent pilferage and intentional mishandling of cargo. MP companies assigned to the theater petroleum group deny sabotage and pilferage attempts. They also help provide security for critical pumping stations and transfer points. MP companies are also assigned, when needed, to ordnance battalions to provide security of conventional ammunition at ASPs.

In a developing theater, senior CSS headquarters MP can carry out some of the security responsibilities until the operational-level functional MP units arrive. But, in this instance, they concentrate on providing increased security on an area basis as part of the senior CSS headquarters' integrated security plan in accord with the senior CSS headquarters commander's priorities for MP employment. See FMs 19-1 and 19-4 for a full discussion of MP support in the COMMZ.

The size and composition of a theater's MP force is tailored to meet the operational environment and is determined by the--

- Nature of the operation, whether unilateral, joint, or multinational.
- Size of the COMMZ.
- Maturity of the theater.
- Nature of the rear area, whether friendly or hostile.
- Capability of the HN to provide MP-related support.
- EPW evacuation and internment policy: to retain in US custody, transfer to HN, or evacuate to CONUS or some other out-of-theater location.
- Size of the MSR network and MC required behind the corps rear boundaries.
- Number of designated critical facilities.
- Resources or key personnel requiring dedicated MP security.
- Ability of HN forces to control the civilian population to preclude interference with military operations.
- Resupply strategy: air, ground, or sea.

Throughout the theater of operations, the senior MP officer at each echelon is the commander's advisor and planner for MP operations. The PM—

- Advises the commander and staff of MP capabilities.
- Prepares plans and policies.
- Coordinates MP operations.
- Assists and supervises interaction of supporting and supported units.
- Reviews current MP operations.
- Coordinates with allied forces and HN military and civilian police.

In the absence of specific directions or orders, the PM plans the use of MP assets based on assumptions consistent with a thorough knowledge of the situation and mission. The PM considers—

- The strategic and military end state.
- METT-T.
- IPB.
- Environment within the operational area, both physical and cultural.
- Specific missions of MP units in the area.
- MP unit equipment and personnel.

SUPPORT FUNCTIONS

MP units provide combat, CS, and CSS within the senior CSS organization operational area. Special-purpose MP units assigned to functional elements and organizations located in the operational area provide functional support. Individual special-purpose MP companies provide dedicated security for critical facilities and supplies operated or controlled by their parent unit. MP units perform all four MP battlefield missions: area security, BCC, law and order operations, and EPW operations.

AREA SECURITY

Senior CSS element MP units help provide security and protection in the rear areas. MP operations are an integral part of the senior CSS element and subordinate units' coordinated rear security operations and plans. MP area security operations include area

reconnaissance and surveillance; protection of designated critical facilities, resources, MSR critical points, and key personnel; counterincursion and response force operations; and combatting terrorism.

When the territory of a theater coincides with that of an HN, the HN provides security of most LOC critical facilities. However, the HN may request US assistance. As the theater matures, the MP companies arriving with operational-level units provide that assistance. The JPO coordinates security of pipeline systems, and the MP companies subordinate to the petroleum group carry it out. The HN or Army port operator identifies port security requirements for US forces. The MTMC coordinates US port requirements, and MP companies assigned to transportation terminal battalions carry them out. However, harbor defense is a Navy and the Marine Corps

responsibility, which extends to the shoreline. If Army support is provided for harbor defense operations, it is subject to the provisions of specific agreements between the Army and the Navy.

The HN manager for the respective system identifies railway security needs for US forces. The senior MMC coordinates US requirements for these LOC. When the user cannot provide security, MP companies assigned to appropriate transportation units provide security of in-transit personnel and critical commodities along with the railway facilities located within areas under US control. Senior CSS headquarters MP also support the users of COMMZ LOC by aggressively patrolling the area through which the LOC pass. These supply corridors include ports, inland waterways, railways, pipelines, and airfields. US forces seldom have exclusive use of LOC facilities within a COMMZ; they are shared with allied forces and, therefore, all users provide their security. But when other forces do not use LOC facilities, security becomes a US responsibility.

MP play an important role in rear operations by conducting combat operations against the threat in the rear area. To counteract enemy incursions, MP aggressively patrol and reconnoiter likely avenues of approach and landing and drop zones. MP responding to the presence of the enemy identify, close with, and destroy small threat forces before they reach their objectives. Should the response force encounter or engage threat forces beyond its ability to defeat, it will immediately notify the ROC and maintain contact with the threat force to develop the situation. The response force will attempt to delay and disrupt the threat until a tactical combat force is committed to defeat the threat.

MP conduct counterterrorism operations to maintain control in areas vulnerable to terrorist actions. Normally, US forces unilaterally perform critical security requirements for the protection of senior headquarters. Although the US Army is the proponent for security, the component services that staff the headquarters share the protection of the unified theater headquarters. The senior logistic element MP unit in whose

area of operations the unified command headquarters and the ASCC are located normally provides security to those headquarters.

BATTLEFIELD CIRCULATION CONTROL

BCC is an MP mission involving route reconnaissance and surveillance, MSR regulation and enforcement, straggler and refugee control, intelligence collecting and reporting, and dissemination of information.

MP implement HN and US staff element plans to control the forward movement of combat resources along LOC, working closely with the senior MCA's highway traffic division and the local MCT. In multinational operations, this support integrates the capabilities of available HN and allied forces and various US staff elements, including transportation, personnel, engineer, and CA. Army aviation is used to support circulation control where available.

MP operating traffic control posts and mobile patrols help stragglers return to their respective units through the personnel system. Refugee movement, which is restricted to routes other than MSRs, is primarily the responsibility of the G5/S5 and HN authority. MP assist, direct, or deny the movement of civilians whose location or direction of movement may hinder military operations. They also provide escorts to move US noncombatants from assembly points to theater embarkation terminals.

LAW AND ORDER OPERATIONS

The MP perform law and order operations to suppress the chance for criminal behavior and to confine US prisoners. They conduct these operations only when the combat commander requires and battle intensity permits. The commander's need for these operations depends on METT-T.

Law enforcement operations on the battlefield are most often done as part of other MP operations. For example, MP perform physical security measures as part of their area security of critical assets. During intense combat operations, MP are needed to expedite

and conserve vital resources for combat forces. The need for MP to perform law and order operations increases during lulls in the battle or in areas not actively involved in combat operations. MP maintain liaison with other DOD police organizations and with HN authorities and allied police agencies.

As part of their law and order mission, MP counter terrorism to prevent or defeat terrorists operating within MP jurisdiction. MP antiterrorist and counterterrorist measures include assessing installation vulnerabilities, developing procedures to detect terrorist actions before they occur, hardening likely targets, and taking offensive action to destroy terrorist elements when necessary. Specially trained MP provide services to protect key personnel against terrorist actions and conduct hostage negotiations to obtain the safe release of captives. For a detailed discussion, see FM 100-37.

MP investigate offenses against US forces or property committed by persons subject to military law. Major incidents involving death, serious bodily injury, and war crimes are referred to investigators of the US Army Criminal Investigation Command (USACIC). USACIC also conducts sensitive investigations, supports CSS security operations, and manages criminal- and terrorist-related intelligence.

USACIC elements in the senior CSS organization are assigned to the CIC theater support element (TSE). They are placed in general support of the theater, but remain under the control of the USACIC region. TSEs, their subordinate theater area support elements (TASEs), and port area support elements (PASEs) provide USACIC support in the COMMZ. One TSE supports each senior logistics headquarters, one TASE supports each subordinate CSS headquarters, and one PASE supports each seaport.

ENEMY PRISONER OF WAR OPERATIONS

US policy demands that all persons who are captured, interned, or held by US forces during a conflict be treated humanely. Tactical commanders must resolve the problem of

removing captives from the battle area. Maneuvering units must not be hindered by dealing with large numbers of prisoners. Sick or wounded captives must be taken to the nearest medical facility. Other captives are turned over to MP at the nearest EPW collecting point or holding area.

MP units assigned at division, corps, and senior CSS headquarters operate EPW collecting points and holding areas to temporarily hold captives until they can be removed from the battle area. Traditionally, they operate collecting points in a division operational area and holding areas in the corps or senior CSS headquarters operational area. However, collecting points may be operated wherever they are needed. At collecting points and holding areas, EPW are sustained and field processed.

EPW Confinement

MP assigned to the ASCC provide EPW internment and civilian internee confinement support missions. An MP prisoner of war unit and a separate MP confinement element provide MP support. EPW may be interned in theater under US control, transferred to HN custody under the provisions of Article 12 of the 1949 *Geneva PW Convention*, or evacuated out of theater for extended internment. Transfer to the HN or evacuation to CONUS are preferred internment arrangements due to the heavy drain on medical, engineering, and supply resources required to support EPW internment facilities. The branch center of the US Prisoner of War/Civilian Internee Information Center in CONUS attached from senior headquarters in theater provides the information, data, and statistics required of all nations under the Geneva conventions.

MP escort guard companies evacuate EPW from collecting points and holding areas in the CZ and the COMMZ. Evacuation is effected as expeditiously as possible, using transportation provided by the corps support group in the corps forward areas or the senior transportation organization in the COMMZ. Division and corps MP coordinate with the EPW brigade for the evacuation of EPW from the CZ to COMMZ EPW facilities. COMMZ

escort guards go into the CZ to assume custody of EPW as far forward as possible.

EPW Reception and Processing

EPW reception and processing facilities are established near designated transportation terminals in the COMMZ. MP at these facilities provide for the reception, administration, and physical processing of all US-captured EPW prior to their transfer or internment. MP teams sent from processing centers process EPW/civilian internees in medical channels. If the stay in medical channels is to be very temporary, processing can be carried out after the EPW are returned to MP control. While in medical channels, EPW/civilian internees are the administrative responsibility of the hospital commander. The echelon commander is responsible for designating security elements for EPW in medical channels.

EPW Evacuation and Internment

If EPW are to be evacuated and interned in CONUS, they must first be received at COMMZ EPW reception and processing facilities located at designated transportation terminals where they will be processed in accordance with DA directives. CONUS-based

MP provide guards and guard escorts to evacuate EPW from the COMMZ to CONUS EPW reception and internment facilities.

CONFINEMENT OF US MILITARY PRISONERS

To support the post-trial confinement of US military prisoners, the MP confinement battalion is assigned to the senior Army command or the senior CSS organization. Persons in pretrial confinement are detained, when possible, in their units. Only when they present a hazard to the mission, themselves, or others are they placed in pretrial confinement at a detention or confinement facility under MP control. Other pretrial confinement, when required, is performed by unit personnel.

Military police operate an Army confinement facility, maintaining custody of US military prisoners and supporting them. Like the EPW battalion, this facility is located in the rear of the COMMZ, accessible to logistics and transportation support. Convicted prisoners are evacuated as rapidly as possible from the CZ to the COMMZ confinement facility by tactical level MP. Confinement teams are placed in direct support of CSS activity headquarters for pretrial detention purposes. Further evacuation of US prisoners from the COMMZ to CONUS is done in accordance with DA policy.

CONTINGENCY/FORCE PROJECTION OPERATIONS

MP support to contingency/force projection operations is characterized by austere force levels. This concept of contingency operations dictates a limited MP force able to operate effectively in a unique, highly vulnerable environment. Because of the expected limited duration of such operations and the scarcity of strategic lift assets, fewer MP are located at the operational level in a contingency theater. Those MP that are provided will concentrate their resources on area security and EPW operations.

BCC may assume added importance if the operational-level operational area is immediately adjacent to, or separated from, the tactical rear boundary. The MP force is able to support a contingency force within the personnel constraints set by the type of

operation. The size of an MP force is influenced by—

- The number and distribution of LOC.
- The availability of adequate MSRs.
- The number of critical facilities and resources requiring security.
- The mission of the force.
- The type of terrain.
- The attitude of the indigenous population.

The composition of the MP force providing support to contingency operations is based on METT-T. Contingency operations generally introduce combat and support elements into the objective area, ensuring maximum combat power while keeping the logistical LOC to a minimum.